



April 20, 2010

Honorable Jan Brewer
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Support SB1070 immigration; Safe Neighborhoods; Law enforcement

Dear Governor Brewer,

On behalf of the Arizona Police Association, a professional law enforcement organization representing more than 9,000 police, correction, detention, and border patrol officers, I am requesting your support of SB 1070 immigration; Safe Neighborhoods; Law Enforcement.

Arizona citizens have been subjected to an increasing wave of criminal activity from across our international border. Though overall crime statistics are down in Arizona, crimes against minority citizens, perpetrated by illegal gangs and other criminal enterprises, have remained a constant and are a continuing struggle for law enforcement agencies. Police officers commonly investigate crimes within our minority communities and commonly find that the perpetrators are members or affiliates of major criminal enterprises originating in Mexico. These criminal enterprises have long influenced minority community residents by threatening violence or the destruction of their personal property should anyone report their illicit activity to law enforcement authorities. Additionally advocates for the illegal alien population have unintentionally fueled the fears of the minority community by advocating a position of "don't ask, don't tell or else" when crimes are committed. Such a position has bred government distrust within this community and promoted an overall increase in violent criminal activity.

To combat the growing influence of the illegal criminal element the Arizona Police Association supported SB 1070. SB 1070 will provide law enforcement officers with a much needed tool to determine, if cause and need exists, the immigration status of people they come in contact with who do not have proper identification on scene or readily available. This provision alone will assist officers in identifying friend from foe, resident from visitor, and victim from criminal.

There is no negative fiscal impact expected with this legislation. AZPOST has training dollars available to instruct or reinstruct officers on proper search and seizure as well interrogation techniques. The transportation of detained illegal aliens to a detention facility is no more

economically taxing than transporting a citizen offender to a county jail or to a federal holding facility.

With our purpose for supporting this bill in mind I respectfully ask, on behalf of the all APA member associations, for your support and the signing of SB 1070.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Livingston', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brian Livingston

Executive Director

Arizona Police Association